

Politics Inside Out
Nowadays, Says Vane

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effect that you can get a longer and better car ride for a nickel in Philadelphia than anywhere else in civilization. Before doing this the Congressman qualified as an expert by showing that he had ridden on cars in Camden, Wilmington and Atlantic City.

Danger in Smaller Council
Mr. Vane expressed great anxiety over the fate of representative government and the democracy for which the world has been fighting. The great menace which he described rising on the political horizon like a funnel-shaped cloud on the edge of a wheat field in bleeding Kansas was the movement for a single City Council of small members or a commission to govern the city.

G. O. P. Pillared on Truth
After explaining that politics is now "absolutely free," since a candidate for office doesn't even have to pay to file his petition, Representative Vane described the division, ward and city organizations as they appear on the surface and as they are supposed to be. The whole system he described as "absolutely a system of democracy in its very, very general form."

Why Organization Triumphs
There was an awkward pause. No body seemed to know. You could have heard a knife or fork drop.
"Because," he answered, "the organization in Philadelphia maintains the highest standard of efficiency."
"Why a year ago, when every paper in the city was opposing the organization did it elect its candidates?"
"This was another power. Everybody turned to somebody else, each looking for an answer in the other's eyes."
"Because," said the Representative with slow emphasis, "the party organization was based on truth and integrity of purpose. No equivocation, no mental reservation."
The Congressman then took up the cudgels for the present candidate and ward system. "It doesn't appeal to the public press; it doesn't appeal to

men who want to see their names conspicuously in the papers; it doesn't appeal to the so-called reformers," he said, "but it appeals to the man of common sense who wants his taxes kept down."
Defends "Brother Ed" on Tax Rate
"Some business men asked Senator Vane if he would help keep the tax rate down, and he said that, although he had no vote in Council, he would advise and co-operate to the best of his ability to the end that the tax rate be kept down. Yet not a newspaper published these facts without distorting them. They represented Senator Vane as sitting as a car and saying the rate should not be increased. Well, I understand that we are going to have the same tax rate."

Assails Reform Candidate
Representative Vane said the "so-called reform candidate for Receiver of Taxes" a year ago, being unqualified to vote, made affidavits that he had been out of town on the three registration days, but did not go back to make the second affidavit, realizing that to do so might bring him nearer to "places that were undesirable—where fresh air and sunshine would not be so easy to secure as on the public highways."
W. Frederick Kendrick, Receiver of Taxes, followed Senator Vane, eulogizing the organization, criticizing all who criticize it, and urging harmony among the organization leaders, the "so-called reformers," and the "old-timers."

Armstrong Offers Explanation
The man to whom Representative Vane alluded as the reform candidate for Receiver of Taxes a year ago is Thomas F. Armstrong, Mr. Armstrong told what Representative Vane had said of him, said "For years I have summered at Ocean City. On Tuesdays I went to New York on Saturdays I was never in town. Two of the registration days were Tuesdays, the other Saturday. On Tuesdays I got into town from Ocean City at twenty minutes of nine and took the nine o'clock train to New York. So I was technically in the city on two registration days."
However, for years I had made affidavit that I was not in town on the registration days and was never questioned, though everybody knew I had been in town twenty minutes on two registration days. The affidavit was, like a certain soap, 50-40 per cent truth. It was so nearly true that nobody was small enough to question it. But I thought that gang of crooks ten years in Council and nothing was too small for them to do against me a year ago. I didn't go back to make another affidavit because I was told it was no use, for they would deprive me of my vote on the technicality. You see how hard pressed they were."

Money Used in Politics
The New York Staats Zeitung was mentioned by Bielski in connection with the financing of a secret propaganda to the extent of \$495. A letter from Bernstorff to B. H. Ridder, of that paper, said "to my great regret I am unable to refund any money for political purposes, as I feel that we must keep out of the domestic politics of the United States."
"I think that letter must have been written for publication," said Bielski "because the money was paid."
Just what was the project referred to was not disclosed by the correspondence, but the witness said it might have been in connection with the election of Congressman Buchanan.

Couldn't Influence Negroes
Efforts of the Germans to create pro-German feeling among the negroes of the South proved entirely unsuccessful, Bielski stated. Stories were circulated there to the effect that the negroes were descendants of the Indians and that they were the rightful owners of the land instead of the white people. Another story, designed to create feeling against the English, was a perverted account of the aid given the South during the Civil War.
"The negroes didn't take to these stories, however," Bielski said, "as they were too loyal. Money spent in the South for propaganda was thrown away."
Activities of the Labor's National Police Council, organized in Chicago in May, 1918, were discussed by Bielski. The purpose of the organization was to demand that the shipment of munitions to the Allies be stopped. Bielski said, largely because Samuel Gompers took a firm stand against it.
Questioned about the attitude of William Randolph Hearst, Bielski said: "Of all the newspapers published in

the United States those published by Mr. Hearst were the most pronounced in favor of Germany. There is no other man whose attitude was so friendly to Germany in the war."
"If this inquiry were limited to paid propagandists," he added, "we could not mention Mr. Hearst. There is no evidence that Mr. Hearst received any profits from the German Government or from any one acting for it."
"What was his attitude after the United States entered the war?" asked Chairman Overman.
"After we entered the war," said the witness, "his attitude continued very questionable. Many articles in his papers published before the passage of the espionage act, as amended, would have subjected him to prosecution."

SEIZE SAXON KING'S FORTUNE
New Government Also Sequesters Prince's Funds
Geneva, Dec. 9.—(By A. P.)—The entire fortunes of former King Frederick August of Saxony and his brother, Prince John George, have been placed under sequestration by the new Saxon Government, according to Swiss newspapers.
The properties and estates of the former Saxon royal family have been confiscated provisionally while payment of the civil list has been stopped.

BOY OF 17 RETURNS A HERO
Keystone Youth Wounded and Cited for Valor on Field
His name is Private Joseph Roockey, but he is no "rookie." Only seventeen years old, wearing a citation cord awarded by the French Government and a red Keystone given members of the Iron Division by General Pershing, Roockey is back at his home with relatives, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ward, at Drakes Hill, recovering from wounds and shell shock.
Private Roockey went to France with the 108th Machine-Gun Battalion and saw active service six straight days at Chateau-Thierry. During that time he had two canisters of water, four pieces ofhardtack and virtually no sleep. When it was over his clothing was in shreds.
One time he stood with two companions by a road. A shell killed both his friends. At another time he was with a detachment in which one man was killed and two wounded by a shell. On August 9 Roockey was operating his machine gun from the top of a cliff. After firing 2000 rounds the gun broke and he started to crawl back after a new part. A German sniper saw him and he received a bullet wound in the leg. A minute later a high explosive shell threw him ten feet in the air. He was unconscious twenty-four hours on the field before he was found and taken to a hospital.

after the witness said, Bolo was introduced to Hearst, who invited him to lunch and who later attended a number of meetings with him. Bolo's mission in this country was ostensibly to obtain print paper, the committee was told, but in reality, it was to obtain money for purchasing a paper in France. After getting it, he returned to France.
"There is one fact about Bolo we have which was never brought out before," Bielski said. "That is that he was in touch with the German embassy here shortly after war began in 1914. In a note book of Dr. A. Bert, which we have in our possession, this entry appears: "Prepare telegram to Pasha." That shows conclusively that the embassy knew intimately of Bolo and probably knew of his activities."

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"Nothing as Usual," by William G. Shepherd, explains many things that have puzzled us, and holds many a new thrill of pride in the American nation's part in the war. Read it in the December



Everybody's MAGAZINE

TEN years ago it was generally accepted as a fact that there was some ready-made filing scheme somewhere that would make any business self-recording—everything in fact but automatic.
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